

What is a gel blaster?

A gel blaster (or gel guns, gel shooters, gel markers, hydro markers, hydro blasters) looks like a toy gun and designed to shoot gel balls that have been soaked in water. Gel blasters are becoming increasingly popular as a form of recreation in Queensland leading to an increase in the number of stores and online retailers selling these products.

While gel blasters are not prohibited in Queensland, Queensland Police have produced a video outlining changes to Queensland gel blaster laws. These blasters must be used in accordance with the relevant laws and requirements (eg. importation permits, noise, parking etc). Please familiarise yourself with the information below including visiting Council's website on Local laws

Do I need approval?

Development approval is required to operate an Indoor / Outdoor Sport and Recreation activity.

Land use activity	Approval required?	Description of proposed activity/development
Private use (occupants at home)	No	No Council approval required for the use of gel blasters by the occupants of the Dwelling house and family and/or friends. Recommendation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No advertising of event/s on any social media platforms, noticeboards, SMS or word of mouth; • No payment is to be received by the land owner, occupant or operator; • Refer to Party Safe information provided by the Queensland Police • Audible noise is not permitted before 7am or from 7am to 10pm if the use causes noise of more than 70dB(A) or from 10pm to midnight if the use causes noise of more than the lesser of 50dB(A); 10dB(A) above the background level.
Indoor sport and recreation (commercial)	Yes	Prior to the use commencing Council approval is required for the commercial use of gel blasters in an indoor setting defined as Indoor sport and recreation. Indoor sport and recreation is premises used for leisure, sport or recreation activity conducted wholly or mainly indoors.
Outdoor sport and recreation (commercial)	Yes	Prior to the use commencing Council approval is required for the commercial use of gel blasters in an outdoor setting defined as Outdoor sport and recreation. Outdoor sport and recreation is considered premises used for a recreation or sporting activity that is carried on outdoors and requires areas of open space or providing and selling food and drink, change room facilities or storage facilities, if the use is ancillary to the recreation or sporting activity.

Please note that the above uses for indoor and outdoor sport and recreation do not include accommodation ie. Short term accommodation or Tourist park. If any form of accommodation is being offered including overnight camping the development application will need to include this activity.



Level of assessment triggered

Depending on the proposed development and the property zoning, the application can either be code assessable or impact assessable (public notification).

Refer to Council's pdf zoning maps on the website to determine your property zoning or contact Council to confirm your planning scheme zone.

The tables of assessment in Part 5 of the South Burnett Regional Council Planning Scheme on Council's website <https://www.southburnett.qld.gov.au/homepage/61/planning-scheme-2017> lists whether the proposed development is code assessable or impact assessable and the associated benchmarks.

Do I need any other approvals and what are the fees?

In addition to planning approvals you will need to obtain Building work approval for any building works and an approval for Plumbing and drainage works. Operational works permit may also be required for works on a local government road.

Fees for development applications lodged with Council can vary depending on the type of application and assessment required.

The Register of Fees and Charges is published on Council's website <https://www.southburnett.qld.gov.au/downloads/file/4087/register-of-fees-and-charges-2020-21-financial-year> (see Planning heading)

There can be additional charges as a result of a planning approval for infrastructure (ie. water, sewer, stormwater, parks and roads).

From 1 December 2020 Council is offering reduced infrastructure charges for certain developments that are completed prior to 30 June 2022. To apply for an infrastructure charges reduction download the application form and factsheet from Council's website <https://www.southburnett.qld.gov.au/resources/resources-1/1>.

Where do I lodge my application?

- In person at any Council Customer Service Centre
- By email via info@sbrc.qld.gov.au
- By mail to Chief Executive Officer, Attention Planning & Land Management, South Burnett Regional Council, PO Box 336, Kingaroy Qld 4610

How long will it take to obtain a decision?

The processing time for a well-made development application can vary between 3 - 4 months and possibly longer if public submissions are lodged in objection to the proposed development.

If approved, what conditions apply?

Conditions of approval will depend on the scale, nature and location of the proposed development. However, conditions may relate to matters including, but not limited to:

- Access
- Amenity and environmental controls
- Landscaping
- Screening
- Waste provision
- Water supply
- Services including amenities
- Parking areas
- Restricted areas
- Hours of operation
- Number of spectators/participants

We value your feedback

For further information or to provide feedback, contact Council's Customer Services team:


Telephone: 1300 789 279 or 07 4189 9100

Email: info@sbrc.qld.gov.au

Website: www.southburnett.qld.gov.au

Alternatively, call into any of Council's Customer Service Centres for assistance.



For further information contact Council's Customer Service team via email info@sbrc.qld.gov.au or call 07 4189 9100 or 1300 789 279. www.southburnett.qld.gov.au  [southburnettregion](https://www.facebook.com/southburnettregion)